

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HALIFA 00339 221635Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 /070 W
-----038347 230451Z /13

R 221500Z JULY 77
FM AMCONSUL HALIFAX
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1736 PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
ALL CANADA CONGENS

UNCLAS HALIFAX 0339

TAGS: PGOV CA
SUBJECT: DOUBTS ABOUT NATIONAL UNITY:
TWO JOURNALISTS VIEWS
REF: HALIFAX 0316

1. HALIFAX "CHRONICLE-HERALD" EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
HAROLD SHEA, IN HIS 7/22/77 OPINION COLUMN, EXPRESSES
QUALMS ABOUT THE NEW FEDERAL NATIONAL UNITY STUDY
GROUP. HE WELCOMES THE INTENTION OF THE NEW GROUP
TO STUDY ECONOMIC DISPARITIES WITHIN CANADA BUT IS
UNEASY ABOUT CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES WHICH THE
GROUP MAY ADVOCATE. OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO ATLANTIC
CANADIANS, HE INDICATES, WILL BE ANY ATTEMPTS BY
THE NEW GROUP TO GIVE SPECIAL ADVANTAGES OR VOTING
POWER TO THE MORE POPULOUS AND RICHER PROVINCES AT
THE EXPENSE OF ATLANTIC CANADA. THE VERY COMPOSITION
OF THE STUDY GROUP, HOWEVER, RAISES THIS SPECTOR.
RICHARD CASHIN OF NEWFOUNDLAND IS THE ONLY EAST
COAST REPRESENTATIVE ON A BODY WHICH WILL GIVE TWO
SEATS TO ONTARIO, TWO SEATS TO QUEBEC, AND TWO TO THE
WEST.

2. IN SAME ISSUES OF NEWSPAPER
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6, COLUMNIST E.D. HALIBURTON
EXPRESSES DEEPEST PESSIMISM THAT QUEBEC CAN BE KEPT WITHIN
CONFEDERATION. ALL OVER THE WORLD, HE INDICATES,
TRIBALIS. (OF WHICH NATIONALISM IS A VARIANT) IS
MAKING ITSELF MANIFEST. REASON AND LOGIC COUNT
FOR NOTHING WHERE EMOTIONS ARE INVOLVED.

HE CITES THE UNITED STATES, HOWEVER, AS A NATION
WHICH LONG AGO TOOK THE RIGHT COURSE:

"THE UNITED STATES MAY HAVE ITS TROUBLES
BUT SURELY, WISE AND FORESEEING, WERE THE
AUTHORS OF THEIR CONSTITUTION WHICH EMBRACED
THE MELTING POT IDEA, AND REALLY CREATED
A NEW NATION OF NOT ONLY DIFFERING CAUCASIAN
PEOPLE, BUT OF ROUNDHEADS AND SQUAREHEADS, OF
WHITE PEOPLE, BLACK PEOPLE AND YELLOW OR
COPPER COLOURED PEOPLE."

3. POUCHING CLIPPINGS TO EMBASSY OTTAWA AND DEPT (EUR/CAN).

MOORE

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

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